



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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shocked us, but a little reflection showed that in a Roman Catholic country no middle course is possible. The religious teaching being entirely clerical you must either admit the clerics or shut them out. There is no lay teaching of religion. M. Robin had at his back the Department of the Seine (not the Government) and his employers being anti-clerical he was well supported. Needless to say there was plenty of teaching bearing on the formation of character and goodness.

Our impression of the orphanage was wholly pleasant. The boys and girls studied and played together like a large family; the idea of sex seemed not to occur to them. M. Robin was in every way an advanced educationist, emancipated from tradition and rational all round.

Co-education, however, was a thing too advanced for the French mind. If it is still regarded in England with suspicion, in France it is regarded with horror. The enmity of the clerics was increasing. Time after time they led the assault upon M. Robin, spreading every kind of unsavoury rumour about life at the orphanage. I can only say that my wife and I, knowing M. and Mdme. Robin, and having watched the ways and manners of the children, believe these rumours to have been false. But at last the clerical attack succeeded; M. Robin was dismissed. He called upon me in London shortly after. He was leaving France. Having been for some time French master at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, he was accustomed to English people, and he had decided, by a study of meteorological tables, that the finest climate in the world was that of Auckland. I introduced him to one or two New Zealanders who gave him information, and he sailed. His intention was to use his knowledge of agriculture, and he hoped to be able to send for his family in a year's time. I have written to him once or twice at the address he gave (Poste Restante), but have not had a reply. I hope, however, that he is thriving in the new world. But it is hard for a Frenchman to leave France.

Yours very truly,

J. SPENCER CURWEN.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Edited by Miss RUSSELL, Sec., 26, Victoria Street, S.W.

To whom all Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, also 6 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

N.B.—Kindly write on one side of the paper only.

I am asked by Mr. E. W. Swanton, of the Educational Museum, Haslemere, to mention that copies of the *Space-for-time history schedule*, of which mention was made in his paper at the Conference, *can be had from me now*. He wishes me also to apologise for the delay, and to explain that he is unable to send direct to those who applied to him, as their addresses have been lost by an unfortunate error. When writing for this Schedule please enclose 1d. for postage.

26, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

(MISS) J. M. RUSSELL,
Sec. P.N.E.U.

NEW BRANCHES.

The Executive Committee has been approached with a view to starting Branches in the following places:—

BARRY (GLAMORGAN).

BRADFORD.

BRISBANE.

BRISTOL.

CARDIFF.

CHELTENHAM.

COPENHAGEN.

CROYDON.—Names may be sent *pro tem.* to P. Rands, Esq., Brightly, Bensham Manor Road.

DUBLIN.

ESHER.

GUILDFORD.—Names may be sent *pro tem.* to Mrs. Clarke Kennedy, Ewhurst Rectory, near Guildford.

HUDDERSFIELD.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Names may be sent *pro tem.* to Miss Bennett, High School for Girls.

MANCHESTER.—Mrs. Freston, 6, St. Paul's Road, Kersal, Manchester, will receive names of people interested in this Branch (*pro tem.*).

NORWICH.

NOTTINGHAM.

PRESTBURY.

SURBITON.

SWANSEA.

WINCHESTER.—Names may be sent *pro tem.* to Mrs. Rose, Lesney, Clifton Road, Winchester.

WOKING.

Readers of the *Parents' Review* living in these districts, or having friends there, are asked to communicate with Miss Russell, 26, Victoria Street, S.W.

BELGRAVIA.—Nov. 18th, Annual Meeting of the Branch, at 44, Upper Brook Street (by kind permission of Mrs. Kinnell), at 3 o'clock; Mrs. Percy Bigland in the chair. Mrs. Franklin on "What we mean by Education." *It is earnestly hoped that all members will bring non-members to this lecture.*—Nov. 20th, "Hygiene of the Nursery," by Miss Helen Webb, M.B. (London), at 3 p.m., at 13, Mansfield Street, Cavendish Square; Mrs. Wm. Bridgeman in the chair. This lecture is intended for nurses of members of any Branch of the Union. Members may also attend, but not non-members.—Nov. 27th, "The Teaching of Sight-Singing to Children" (according to the system of the Staff Sight-Singing College), by Dr. Sawyer, illustrated by a class of children, at 4.30 p.m., at 39, Graham Street, Eaton Square; Sir Frederick Bridge in the chair. Tea at 4.—Dec. 10th, "Self-Reliance and Public Opinion," by Miss Montgomery.

BRONDESBURY AND KILBURN.—This branch began its winter session on Oct. 8th. The Annual General Meeting took place at 8 o'clock, and was followed by a most interesting lecture from Miss Alice Woods, the President, on "Attention." This was followed by an animated discussion.

The next lectures are by C. H. Granville, Esq., B.A., on "The Teaching of Arithmetic," October 22nd, at Surrey Lodge, Shoot-up Hill (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. George), at 8.30 p.m.—Nov. 5th, Miss Murray will lecture on "Froebelianism," at 44, Cavendish Road, Brondesbury (by kind permission of Miss Daniel), at 8.30 p.m. The Natural History Club Exhibition was held at Mrs. Cunningham's, 86, West End Lane, on Oct. 9th. The president, Dr. Walker, F.E.S., professed himself pleased with the collections, and prizes were awarded to the young contributors.

DULWICH.—On Sept. 26th, at Hillsbro', Alleyn Park (by kind permission of the Rev. J. H. Mallinson) the Rev. Theodore Wood, F.E.S., gave his most interesting and instructive lecture on "Oddities of the Sea," which was very greatly enjoyed and thoroughly appreciated by a large audience. The lecturer made rapid sketches in colored crayons of the objects he was describing.—On Oct. 8th, at "The Falcons," 210, Denmark Hill (by kind permission of Mrs. G. E. Smith) Miss C. de la Cherois-Crommelin read a paper, entitled "Simplification of Life," which strongly advocated a more thoughtful spending of one's life and money, more especially with regard to the accumulation of useless possessions.—On Nov. 8th, at Glenmore, Underhill Road (by kind permission of Dr. Batten), a lecture on "The Stars" will be given by Mr. Stalley.—On Dec. 5th, at Pond House, Dulwich, Mr. G. B. Stretton will kindly give a lecture on "A Trip to the Pink Archipelago and Southern Asia Minor."

ENGLEFIELD GREEN.—A delightful lecture, admirable in matter and form, was given on Oct. 16th, by W. G. de Burgh, Esq., of Reading College. Plato's "Ideal in Education," was unfolded with enthusiasm and lucidity, and listened to by an appreciative audience of some 26 ladies and gentlemen. After the meeting Mrs. Tickell, of the R.I.E. College, Cooper's Hill, Englefield Green, was elected Hon. Sec. (assisted by Miss Parker) in the place of Miss Shipley, who has resigned owing to her approaching marriage.

FINCHLEY.—The present session commenced with an opening address from Dr. McClure, on Oct. 10th; and the inaugural meeting of the Natural History Club on Oct. 16th, when Miss Hart Davis gave a most interesting account of the Club.—The following lectures have been arranged:—Nov. 7th, "Sympathy between Parents and Children," by C. D. Olive, Esq., Wimbledon. Dec. 9th, "The Sphere of Parental Choice," by Miss Alice Woods, Maria Grey Training College. Feb. 6th, "The Home through the Schoolmaster's Spectacles," by I. T. Phillipson, Esq., M.A., Christ's College. March 6th, "The Training of Young Citizens," by Miss Carta Sturge. May 8th, "Nervous Disorders as they affect the Education of Children," by G. W. H. Savage, Esq., M.D.

GLASGOW.—During the session, 1901-2, four lectures will be delivered. In Nov., Mr. W. C. Lancing will speak on "How Parents can best help the Work of a School." In Dec., Madame Akerbladh gives an address on "Swedish Free Drill." In Feb., Dr. Schlomka lectures on "The Development of the Mind"; and in March, Mr. Oswald Fergus gives "A few hints on the Care of Teeth."—In addition to the above, a short course of lectures on Botany has been arranged. This will be open to both mothers and children, and will be conducted by Prof. Scott-Elliott, of the Technical College.

HARROW.—On Oct. 2nd, at Bamborough, Sheepcote Road, a lecture was given by Miss Graves (ex-Student of the House of Education) on "How to teach children to appreciate a good picture." She urged strongly that parents should, from the very first, surround the child in his nursery with engravings of the best pictures; mentioning that she had known instances where quite little children had appreciated Millais' *Order of Release*, Leighton's *Wedded*, and Correggio's *Reading Magdalen*. Indeed the lecture was full of episodic illustrations from the life, which for dramatic power, and intuitive sympathy with the child's point of view, could not have been surpassed, and which went straight to the hearts of the audience: winged suggestions, which could not fail of their mark from one who was closely in touch with the child and who had, moreover, a keen vision for his little needs in the way of sympathy and understanding. The lecturer suggested that the National Gallery should be used to induce comparison in the child's mind of the work of the old masters with that of modern painters, that he might recognise the difficulties which the former had to overcome, and the progress of art. Another valuable suggestion was that the teacher should take some detail in a good picture in the house and place the objects represented there in the same position before the child for him to try his skill upon; then when he has drawn them to the best of his ability, take him up to the picture and let him note the differences between his attempt and the effect in the picture before him, and let him correct his drawing from the picture. The lecture was listened to with marked attention throughout, and the after discussion was spontaneous.—Nov. 9th, meeting at 3.30 p.m., at Woodridings School, Pinner. "Children's emotional development," by Miss Alice Woods.

HYDE PARK AND BAYSWATER.—Hon. Sec., Mrs. Franklin, 50, Porchester Terrace, Hyde Park. "At Home" Thursday Mornings.—The following lectures, &c., have been arranged: On Nov. 14th, at 4.30, at 49, Harley Street (by kind permission of Mrs. Battle), Dr. Hector Mackenzie (Physician to St. Thomas' Hospital and to the Brompton Hospital for Diseases of the Chest) will lecture on "The Importance of Fresh Air for the Health of Children." The chair will be taken by W. H. Battle, Esq., F.R.C.S. Tea and Coffee, 4 p.m. On Nov. 20th, at 3 p.m., at 13, Mansfield Street, Cavendish Square (by kind permission of Mrs. William Bridgeman, who will occupy the chair), Miss Helen Webb, M.B. (Lond.), will lecture on "Hygiene of the Nursery." This lecture is intended for the nurses of members of any branch of the Union; members may also attend, but not non-members. Hockey for children and adults commenced in October. Particulars from Mrs. Franklin, as also of Swedish drill, dancing and hand-work classes.

LEWES.—The following lectures have already been arranged for this season: On Nov. 8th and 22nd, Miss Barnard will speak on "The Briton of the Future; how shall we educate him?"—On Jan. 7th and 14th, Mrs. Scott Malden will give "Plain Talks to Mothers and those *in loco parentis* on the Moral Training of Children."—On Feb. 11th, the Rev. Dr. Belcher will give "A Talk about Lewes." The lectures all take place at 3.30 p.m., in St. Michael's Parish Room, which is five minutes' walk from the station. There was a very good attendance at all last season's

lectures, and judging from the many inquiries made as to when the lectures are to begin again, the Hon. Sec. feels that the audience were pleased and interested. The lectures are free to all non-members who wish to find out for themselves what the "Parents' Union" is and does. All members of neighbouring branches who care to attend will also be very welcome, if they will kindly communicate with the Hon. Sec., Mrs. F. Fawssett, 83, High Street, Lewes.

READING.—*Natural History Club*. On Sept. 21st, we held our last Summer Excursion. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bate most kindly invited us to Bucklebury. To our great disappointment the day was very wet and only ten of us were valiant enough to set forth. But those who did go enjoyed the day very much. From Aldermaston station we drove up to the Common and spent some time there botanizing. After a most hospitable tea at Mr. Bate's house, Mr. H. M. Wallis gave us a most interesting talk about "White Owls," which he had been watching in his barn during the summer. He had seen them breed their family and told us many amusing stories about them. *The Children's Quarterly* is issued by the Reading Branch Natural History Club, price 2s. 2d., post free for the year, or 6½d. per copy. It should be ordered from Mrs. Stanley Hayward, Hazelwood, Kendrick Road, Reading. There is also a Quarterly Portfolio of paintings, particulars of which can be obtained from Mrs. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading. The Botanical Portfolio is managed by Dr. Stansfield, 120, Oxford Road, Reading. Instructions as to quarterly subjects of study for these portfolios are printed in *The Children's Quarterly*.

WANSTEAD AND WOODFORD.—Nov. 22nd (by kind invitation of Mrs. Arnold Hills, Monkham, Woodford), Mr. Olive will read a paper on "The loss of sympathy between parents and children." Tea at 4 o'clock. Lecture at 4.30. Each member is invited to bring a friend.—Dec. 5th (by kind invitation of Mrs. Pinchin, "Lynton," Grove Park, Wanstead), Mrs. Hayter will read selections from Miss Mason's *Home Education*. Discussion to follow. Tea at 4 o'clock. Reading 4.30. Each member is invited to bring a friend.—Feb., Paper by Mrs. Clement Parsons, "The right spending of money."

WIMBLEDON.—A course of lectures to young people will be delivered at the Lecture Hall, Wimbledon, on Thursdays, beginning on Nov. 7th, at 4 45 p.m., on "The Wonders of Creation—Part II.," by Mr. Cecil Carus-Wilson, F.R.S. The former course given by Mr. Carus-Wilson was most popular with the young people and their parents, illustrated as it was by beautiful lantern slides, and it is hoped that this course will be as well attended. Tickets may be had of the Local Hon. Sec., Kingsley Gate, and various members of the committee. Children 4s. 6d., Adults 5s.

WOKING.—An informal meeting was held at Cotteridge on Oct. 5th, for the purpose of discussing the advisability of starting a local branch of the P.N.E.U. The objects of the Union were most interestingly explained by Mrs. Howard Glover, and met with universal appreciation. A larger meeting is being arranged for Nov. 14th, when it is hoped Mrs. Franklin will be able to give the address, and that the local committee may be formed.

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"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."

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POEMS OF MOTHER AND CHILD.

BY THE EDITOR.

I.

"Unto us a Child is born."

"Christ in you, the Hope."

All his rest is on her arm;
She, his only shield from harm;
She doth his sole meat supply;
All his joy is in her eye.

Helpless, that is not his care;
A burden, she is strong to bear;
Fragile, will not she forefend?
Ailing—soft, her love shall tend.

Jesus, Saviour, Son of man,
Who camest, Infant of a span,
Was Mary thy one mother mild,
Or art thou ever born a Child?

My trembling heart doth in me burn;
There, perchance, shall I discern,—
Though the stall be all defiled,—
The tender form of Christ the Child:

Is there One, a little One,
Who lieth sweetly as a son—
All His meat, the Father's grace,
All His joy, the Father's face;

Rueing not His feeble state,
Fearing not the ills that wait,
Safe, nor asking why, nor how—
Jesus, then, not I, but Thou!

Other fearsome inmates there;
Evil dragons, giant Care;
Hope, joyous, sees them led in thrall,—
This "Little One" shall rule them all.